(ii).—FOREST SETTLEMENTS.

10. The only special Forest Settlement Officer during the year was Mr. Orr, I. C. S., in Thána; in the other divisions the work was done by Assistant Collectors in addition to their own duties.

East and West Thána.

11. Forest settlement has made steady progress during the year.

12. The demarcation and settlement of Máhim Range, West Thána, was approved and sanctioned by Government Resolution No. 4567, dated 24th May 1894, and that of 38 villages of Dáhánu Range (done by Mr. McIver) in the same division by Government Resolution No. 4619, dated 25th May 1894.

13. The demarcation of the remaining villages of the Dáhánu Range was completed by Mr. Orr during the year.

14. Mr. Orr, who was on leave when the year opened, on taking up work on 20th August 1893, set to work to arrange and classify the records so as to show exactly what remained to be done. Overdue settlement proceedings were then taken up in Bhiwndi (East Thána) and Bassein and Sálsette (West Thána) Ranges. A number of notifications of disforestment, for the most part representing not a real change of the forest area but a correction of errors in the records, were also published.

15. Lands acquired for forest in Bhiwndi, Váda and Kalyán (East Thána) were notified under Section 4.

16. Negotiations for the acquisition of land for forest, some of which had been in abeyance for 10 years, were resumed and brought to a definite conclusion.

17. Finally, under the orders of the Collector, the draughtsman and surveyors in the Forest Settlement Office, were employed, during the rains, in preparing maps of the settled Ranges, showing the forest boundaries on the scale of 2″ = 1 mile.

18. The settlement of the Jawhár State boundary in 14 villages of the Dáhánu Táluka by Mr. Dunsterville though not forest settlement must also be recorded here, for Mr. Dunsterville's establishment was drawn from the Forest Settlement Office by order of the Collector.

Panch Maháls.

19. The draft notification under Section 19 in connection with the transfer to Reserved forest of the forest areas of Dohad and Jhálod, referred to in last year's report as having been submitted to Government for publication, was dealt with in Government Resolution No. 4909, dated 7th June 1894, which approved of the proposals made by, which certain privileges already conceded were confirmed and certain others granted. The question of concessions of grazing and treatment of trees on waste lands outside forest was disposed of by the same resolution.

20. The following statement shows the position of forest demarcation and settlement in the Circle by detail of Ranges :—

Number.	Division.	Tálukas in which Forest Settlement and Demarcation has been completed.	Tálukas in which Forest Settlement and Demarcation is still to be completed.	Remarks.
1	East Thána ...	Bhiwndi, Kalyán, Mokhá-da, Váda.	Murbád, Shahápur.	
2	West Thána ...	Bassein, Máhim, Sálsette, part of Dáhánu.	Part of Dáhánu, Umbargaon.	
3	Surat	Mándvi, Balsár, Párdi, Chikhli, Bárdoli.	.....	
4	Panch Maháls ...	Godhra, Kálol, Hálol, Dohad, Jhálod.	.....	

21. The details of land acquired by purchase during the year were as follows :—

Number.	Division.	Area acquired.	Price paid.	Rate per Acre.	Remarks.
		A. g.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	
1	West Thána ...	0 10¾	2 0 0	7 7 0	

22. There was no land obtained by exchange.

23. The following statement shows the cost of Forest Settlement Officers and their establishments for the several divisions :—

No.	Division.	Forest Settlement Officers.		Office Establishments.		Contingencies.	Total.
		Pay.	Travelling Allowance.	Pay.	Travelling Allowance.		
		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
1	East Thána ...	9,220 0 0	1,817 11 0	5,265 5 2	1,249 4 3	511 13 8	18,064 2 1
2	West Thána ...						
3	Surat	.....	.....	1,285 1 6	.....	.....	1,285 1 6
4	Panch Mahals ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	44 10 9	44 10 9
	Total ...	9,220 0 0	1,817 11 0	6,550 6 8	1,249 4 3	556 8 5	19,393 14 4

24. The expenditure incurred upon the formation and constitution of Reserved and Protected forests during the year has amounted to Rs. 22,217-14-4 :—

		Rs. a. p.
1.	Salaries and travelling allowances of Forest Settlement Officers not charged to forests	11,037 11 0
2.	Salaries and travelling allowances of establishments employed under Forest Settlement Officers and charged in forest accounts and the contingent expenditure of the latter	8,356 3 4
3.	Demarcation of forest boundaries upon the ground by the construction of special forest boundary-marks ...	2,822 0 0
4.	Compensation for land and rights	2 0 0
	Total ...	22,217 14 4

25. The work effected during the year by the expenditure detailed above comprises :—

(*a*) The settlement of 252 square miles at a cost of Rs. 77 per square mile.

(*b*) The demarcation of 139½ miles of forest boundary at Rs. 20-4-0 per mile.

(*c*) The purchase of 10¾ gunthas of land for forest reservation at Rs. 7-7-0 per acre.

26. The following statement shows the area to be examined, demarcated and settled in the Northern Circle :—

No.	Division.	Area settled.	Area unsettled.
		Sq. m. a.	Sq. m. a.
1	East Thána	1,298 12	386 389
2	West Thána	247 450	254 242
3	Surat	68 477	.....
4	Dángs	678 320	.....
5	Panch Mahals	333 410	.....
	Total ...	1,626 389	640 631